Departure time of Andhra Express

3360. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for a change in the departure timing of Andhra Express for Hyderabad for the convenience of passengers on the route; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found feasible at present due to operational difficulties.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of Farrukhabad-Kanpur Section

3361. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for gauge conversion of railway line from Farrukhabad to Kanpur on Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Kanpur to Farrukhabad via Northern Railway is already on Broad Gauge. However, Kanpur to Farrukhabad on North Eastern Railway is on Metre Gauge.

(b) The work of conversion of Kanpur-Farrukhabad-Kasganj is included in the Action Plan for gauge conversions and is planned to be taken up during the VIII Five Year Plan.

Re-Naming of Samraha Station

3362. SHRI SUKDEV PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to change the name of Samraha (Bihar) Railway Station after the name of late Shri Fanishwar Nath Renu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). As per existing policy, any change in the names of the existing stations can be made only with the recommendation of the State Government concerned and with the concurrence of the Ministry of Home Affairs. No such proposal duly recommended by the State Government and concurred in by Ministry of Home Affairs has been received.

[*English*]

Programme for Aids prevention

3363. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisations engaged in AIDS prevention programme which have received financial assistance from the Union Government during 1991-92; and

(b) the areas of activities of these or-

ganisations and the achievements made including that of the Population Services International?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). No financial assistance was given to voluntary organisations engaged in AIDS prevention programme during 1991-92 under the National AIDS Control Programme.

[*Translation*]

Basic facilities to passengers in trains

3364. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary facilities provided to passengers in trains running in Eastern and Western Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are inadequate; and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). The Passenger amenities in the coaches are provided as per the recommendations of Passenger Amenities Committee on All India basis and there is no discrimination whatsoever in regard to any state/region etc. while providing such facilities.

[*English*]

Restoration of Trains in Samastipur Division

3365. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to restore the passenger trains suspended in Samastipur division, in view of public demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Out of 23 trains cancelled in Samastipur Division in 1990, the following two pairs of trains have been restored:

(1) 415/416 Passenger on Saharsa-Samastipur section w.e.f. 01-12-1991.

(2) 321/322 Darbhanga-Jaynagar Passenger w.e.f. 25-01-1992. Restoration of other trains is at present neither feasible nor justified.

[*Translation*]

Afforestation Programme in U.P.

3366. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various afforestation programmes being launched in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise; and

(b) the number of seedlings planted during each of the last three years and the number of plants survived, district-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Afforestation and tree planting activities